

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of) Confirmation No. 8708
Frank SCHULTE et al.) Group Art Unit: 4137
Application No. 10/595,405) Examiner: Jonathan K. Wood
Filed: April 14, 2006)
For: DISPENSER PUMP)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is presented in response to the Office Action issued September 25, 2008, in connection with the above-captioned patent application.

Amendment Draft presented
at personal interview

In the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Disclosed is a A dispenser pump (1) comprising that has a manually insertable pump shaft (6)[[.aid]] which is surrounded by at least three sleeve sections (16, 17, 18) that can be slid into each other in a telescopic manner. A return spring (8) is preferably disposed between pump shaft (6) and the sleeve sections (16, 17, 18). All parts of the dispenser pump (1), which enter in contact with a liquid that is to be pumped, are made of plastic.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump for delivery of liquid from a container, comprising:

a pump housing which is attachable to a container,

a pump shaft which is movable relative to the pump housing,

a dispenser head on the pump shaft,

a first sleeve section which extends from the dispenser head toward the pump housing and radially surrounds the pump shaft,

a second sleeve section which extends from the first sleeve section ~~and extends~~ towards the pump housing and which is movable into the first sleeve, the first sleeve section in any axial position of the pump shaft extending peripherally over the second sleeve section, and

a third sleeve section which extends from the second sleeve section ~~and extends~~ towards the pump housing and which is movable into the second sleeve section, the second sleeve section in any axial position of the pump shaft extending peripherally over the third sleeve section, so that the first, second and third sleeve section form a telescopically extendable splash protection around the pump shaft between the pump housing and the dispenser head

wherein the first sleeve section has an inner projection which is engageable with the second sleeve section on an end area thereof which is adjacent to the second sleeve section, so that the second sleeve section cannot be pulled out of the first sleeve section,

wherein the second sleeve section has an inner projection which is engageable with the third sleeve section on an end thereof in an area adjacent to the third sleeve section, so that the third sleeve section cannot be pulled out of the second sleeve section,

wherein the second sleeve section has an outer projection on an end area thereof that is adjacent to the first sleeve area,

wherein each inner projection and the respective outer projection that is engageable therewith fit behind one the other, and

wherein insertion bevels which facilitate insertion of the respective outer projection into a position behind by the respective inner projection in a catching or snapping manner are provided. [see, paragraph [0027] on page 5 of the substitute specification]

20. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first sleeve section is attached to the dispenser head.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of the inner projection and the outer projection is an annular shoulder.

25. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein the third sleeve section is attached to the pump housing.

26. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein the third sleeve section is mounted on a collar of the pump housing.

27. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein at least overlapping areas of all of the sleeve sections are at least essentially the same length when the pump shaft is drawn in.

28. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein all of the sleeve sections are lockable in a position pushed into one another.

29. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, further comprising a guide sleeve which projects from the pump housing toward the dispenser head and surrounds the pump shaft.

30. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 29, wherein the third sleeve section radially surrounds the guide sleeve at a distance and an annular space is formed therebetween.

31. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, further comprising, a spring which pretensions the pump shaft, wherein the spring is located radially outward of the pump shaft

32. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, further comprising, a spring which pretensions the pump shaft, wherein the spring is located between the pump housing and the dispenser head.

33. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 32, wherein the spring is radially surrounded by all of the sleeve sections.

34. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 31, wherein the spring is radially surrounded by all of the sleeve sections.

35. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 34, wherein the spring is located radially between the pump shaft and all of the sleeve sections.

36. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 33, wherein the spring is located radially between the pump shaft and all of the sleeve sections.

37. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 31, wherein the spring is a helical spring.

38. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 32, wherein the spring is a helical spring.

39. (Previously Presented) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, further comprising a valve with a plastic valve ball.

40. (Currently Amended) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein all [[of the]] parts in a location exposed to liquid being dispensed are made of plastic.

41. (Cancelled).

42. (New) Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein said insertion bevels are formed by at least one of the surfaces of each of the inner and outer projections being provided with beveled or conical surface.

(page 5, paragraph [0027])

43. Dispenser pump as claimed in claim 19, wherein the inner projections and the outer projections ~~are adapted to interlock~~ so as to form a labyrinth seal for effective protection against splashing or the like.

(paragraph [0026] spanning pages 5 & 6)